



Make sure to check out the website, www.mocorec.com, and follow Montgomery County Recreation on [social media](#) for the latest updates from the Department.

Department Updates - October 2023

Aquatics

The aquatics team manages five indoor pools and seven outdoor pools. Indoor pools are open year-round, and outdoor pools are open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. All pools have accessibility features such as ADA stairs, pool lifts and zero depth entry. Whether you're looking to swim a few laps, participate in a water exercise class, take swimming lessons or just enjoy the water, MCR pools have it all.

Updates:

- The Good Hope Spray Ground exterior work has been completed.
- Wheaton/Glenmont heater is in final stage for inspection.
- Five floating pumpkin patches have been scheduled.
 - Friday, October 20 @ GISC 6-7:30p.m.
 - Saturday, October 21 @ MLK 4:30-6p.m.
 - Friday, October 27 @ OSC 7-8:30p.m.
 - Saturday, October 28 @ KSAC 10 – 11:30a.m.
 - Sunday, October 29 @ KSAC 10 – 11:30a.m. (for individuals with disabilities)
- Three RMSC swim meets.
 - Saturday, October 7 NTG Showdown @ KSAC
 - October 13-15 October Kick OFF @ GISC
 - Saturday, October 21 Mini Splash Down @ GISC

Business Services

The Business Services Team contributes to the achievement of Recreation's mission of high quality, diverse and accessible programs, services, and facilities from an administrative business perspective. Services are directed toward the management and support of the department through ensuring sound business practices in the areas of budget, finance, risk management, contracts and procurement and human resources management.

Updates:

Hiring Update:

Capital Improvement Plans (CIP)

- **Upper County Pool Slide** - In progress. Will be on site by November or sooner. Plan is to have ready to open Memorial Day 2024!
- **Damascus Senior Center** - Design and approvals by REC and LIB in progress.
- **Bauer CRC**- new roof in the next month or so.
- **Kennedy Shriver Aquatic Center (KSAC)** - at about 75% completion of design. Still on target for late spring/early summer closure/start.
- **Holiday Park Senior Center**- in design for refresh/energy etc. - however marquee in progress.
- **Western/Poolesville Outdoor Pool** - POR being developed.
- **Bethesda Rec** - no progress at this time.
- **Wheaton Arts** - POR done, not sure where it stands with funding.
- **Olney Indoor Swim Center** - new heat exchanger - slated for April (Spring Break) only one more winter of flipping.
- **ADA work for Outdoor Pools** - on hold until next fall

Community Recreation Centers (Facilities)

Montgomery County Recreation has 22 Recreation Centers located throughout the County that offer a wide range of activities for children, teens and adults, and may include programs for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Activities typically include classes, workshops, clinics, drop-in programs, supervised play, sports, open gym, crafts and special events. Our centers have diverse amenities that may include fitness rooms, social halls, meeting spaces, classrooms, billiards and game rooms. We have a wide array of rooms available for your use, from social halls to meeting rooms.

Updates:

The Facilities team in collaboration with Countywide Programs and Youth Development (Teens Day Out), and in partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools will begin the Kids Day Out (KDO) Program this October. This program offers out of school time programming on 5 full days out of school. For ages 6-11 years of age. The 5 dates are 10/9/23, 11/1/23, 1/29/24, 4/10/24, and 4/22/24. Included in out of school time will be programming for with disability offered by our Countywide Programs team at the Bauer Recreation Center. The KDO programs will exist in 13 recreation centers.

October also marks the 2023-24 kick-off of the Club Friday program at five recreation centers – Clara Barton, Lawton, Longwood, North Potomac and Potomac. This program, for students in grades 3-5, runs one-two Friday evenings between October and April. Club Friday includes sports, games, arts projects, specialty activities, DJ/dancing and more, varying by date and location.

In addition, the following programs will occur during the month of October:

- *Clara Barton: Haunted House – October 29*
- *Coffield: Fall Festival – Oct 21*
- *East County: Haunted Halloween – Oct 29*
- *Good Hope: 3rd Annual Fall Festival – Oct 21*

- *Lawton: Fall Festival – Oct 15*
- *Long Branch: Haunted House – Oct 27*
- *Long Branch: Family Movie Night (Coco) – Oct 20*
- *Mid County: Family Paint & Sip – Oct 7*
- *North Potomac: Fall Festival – Oct 21*
- *Plum Gar: Family Movie Night – Oct 6*
- *Plum Gar: Family Skate Night – Oct 13*
- *Plum Gar: Family Fun Night – Oct 20*
- *Plum Gar: Family Skate Night – Oct 27*
- *Potomac: Fall Festival – Oct 28*
- *Ross Boddy: Fall Harvest Festival – Oct 14*
- *Scotland: Harvest Festival – Oct 31*
- *Upper County: Harvest Family Movie Night – Oct 27*
- *Wheaton: Skelebtration Event – Oct 30*

Communications and Public Outreach

The Communications and Public Outreach Team manages marketing for the Department, including social media, graphics, website maintenance and advertising. This branch also includes the customer service team housed at the administrative offices in Wheaton and the community outreach specialists who attend dozens of events every month to promote recreation programs and services.

Updates:

Social Media

Facebook

15,336; +89 Followers

[Spray Ground at Good Hope NRC](#)

9% Engagement

Instagram

4,231; +74 Followers

[Buckets and Beats](#)

7.06% Engagement

X (Formerly Twitter)

6,624; +77 followers

[Potomac Outdoor Fitness Park Opening](#)

10.84% Engagement

Outreach Events

1. Back to School Nights
 - a. Rosemary Hills Elementary School
 - b. Rock Creek Elementary School
 - c. Glen Haven Elementary School
 - d. Bel Pre Elementary School
 - e. Seven Locks Elementary School
 - f. Burtonsville Elementary School
 - g. Mill Creek Towne Elementary School
 - h. Candlewood Elementary School
 - i. Flower Hill Elementary School
2. Wheaton Community Safety Summit
3. Distributed SSRAC hiring flyers in Silver Spring
4. Budget Forums
 - a. Mid- County (English)
 - b. Mid- County (Spanish)
 - c. Black Rock (UpCounty)
 - d. Bethesda
5. Montgomery College SHaW Center's Community Resource Fair
6. WorkSource Montgomery Job and Resource Fair at Oak Chapel Church
7. Cafecito Community Resource Fair at Rolling Terrace Elementary School
8. Rock Terrace School Block Party
9. East County Citizens Advisory Board Meeting
10. Parks Half Marathon
11. Paint Branch HS Outreach - Varsity Football Game
12. East County Hub Food Expo & Community Event
13. Bienvenidos Resource Fair
14. Wheaton TGIF Event
15. Wheaton Community Safety Summit
16. Long Branch Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration
17. Middle Brook Mobile Home Park HHM

[October Newsletter](#)

34,200; +852 Subscribers

Top Clicked Link (to date) – [Register for Kids Day Out](#)

MCR Fall Newsletter is included.

Countywide Programming

Countywide Programs offers essential and universally accessible recreation and leisure services to all residents across the region. Program staff generates partnerships with local small businesses and nonprofit organizations to activate key public and private spaces and to offer culturally responsive programs, activities and services such as classes, performing arts, camps, sports, workshops, therapeutic recreation, inclusion services and special events which provide a wide range of economic, health and social benefits.

Updates:

Fall/Winter Plans:

- Fall 2023
 - Fall season registration is ongoing. Programs begin on a rolling start the week of September 5. [As of 9/28/2023, 6,308 registrations across 483 activities.](#)
 - Adult Sports
 - Women's (27 participants) and Men's (12 teams) Basketball began September 17. [Approximate total participants 147 based on average of 10 players per team.](#)
 - Men's (38 teams) and Women's (13 teams) Soccer begins September 6. [Approximate total participants 1,020 based on average of 20 players per team.](#)
 - CoRec (24 teams), Men's (41 teams), and Women's (4 teams) Softball begins September 5. [Approximate total participants 1,035 based on average of 15 players per team.](#)
 - Pickleball. [As of 9/28/2023, 680 registrations across 86 activities.](#)
 - Pickleball Ladder begins September 11
 - Pickleball Doubles Social begins September 14
 - Pickleball Outdoor Tournament on October 7
 - Middle School Pickleball Palooza on October 6 & December 8
 - Glow in the Dark Pickleball Social on October 29-30.
 - Youth Sports
 - Volleyball [Total 621 participants.](#)
 - Leagues begin September 16. [Total 208 participants.](#)
 - HERtime2shine locations: East County, Plum Gar, White Oak. [Total 188 participants.](#)
 - Boys' location: Ross Boddy. [Total 20 participants.](#)
 - Clinics. [Total 413 participants across 36 activities.](#)
 - Flag Football begins September 24. [Total 197 participants.](#)
 - Wheaton HS and Damascus CRC
 - Ultimate Frisbee begins September 17
 - High School League. [Total 97 participants.](#)
 - Cricket Academy begins September 30. [Total 34 participants.](#)
 - Calverton Galway Local Park
 - Therapeutic Recreation
 - [As of 9/28/2023, 431 registrations across 21 activities.](#)
 - Activities include TR Youth Sports (Multi-sport & Soccer), TR Kids Day Out (Youth & Teens), TR Adult Sports (Soccer & Bocce), Social Swims, ZamDance, Socials and Special Events.
 - Classes and Out of School Time

- Kids Day Out and Teens Day Out are back! – excited to partner with MCPS once again to offer 5 days of special programming for youth during non-school days this year at no cost to families. Estimating 3,885 registrations for SY23-24. [As of 9/28/2023, 2,381 registrations across 72 activities. Please note, this number does not include Teens Day Out.](#)
- [Winter 2023](#)
 - Winter Youth Basketball registration opens on October 2.
 - Instructional begins January 6
 - Youth 3rd – 8th and High School begins with practices on December 4 and games on January 6

[IT /Automation Team](#)

The IT Team administers the primary recreation management software RecTrac, branded as ActiveMONTGOMERY, that facilitates customers registrations into activities, facility reservations within recreation centers, and pass membership sales. Senior members of team provide regularly scheduled training classes and training materials to more than 250 career staff and over 500 part-time staff on navigating the system regarding the processes for conducting transactions for recreational services. Rec IT works in close collaboration with the county's Finance Department to ensure financial interfaces and reconciliations are accurately integrated and reported daily to the county's financial systems.

In addition to RecTrac the team is responsible for Recreation's IT infrastructure, hardware, and software needs for all teams and facilities within the Department from procurement through install and end-user training. REC IT ensures the Department's practices regarding use of information systems and resources comply and align to the county's Administrative Procedures and information security best practices.

Updates:

- Resolved 241 service request submitted by staff in September for a total of 2,125 support cases resolved year-to-date.
- Provided 9 IT classes training 63 staff in September on the recreation management software for a total of 64 in-house classes year-to-date with over 350 enrollees.
- Implemented multi-language translation feature on ActiveMontgomery.org
- Completed digitizing a custodial services checklist workflow.
- Developing a chatbot to assist customers to getting answers for frequently asked questions.
- Developing an enhanced financial transactions data interface in collaboration with Finance Department and ERP.

Senior Facilities/Programs

Montgomery County Recreation has many ways for independent adults, 55 and older, to stay active and healthy. Whether you are working, semi-retired, or fully retired, our eight senior centers offer many programs, activities, classes and events for you to choose from. Our centers have diverse amenities that may include fitness rooms, social halls, meeting spaces, classrooms, billiards and game rooms.

September Recap:

- CPO made a great video of one of Paula's SOAR Trips to Baltimore
- [SOAR Cruise Final.mp4](#)
- Kathleen & Paula (visited 9/26/23) the Maryland Marketplace to hopes to network and connect with over 80 destinations and attractions. We hope to find new tours opportunities, that we can offer Montgomery County Residents through the Day Trippers and SOAR programs. It was a great experience and they got to talk to a lot of new venues and met in person some of our new Fall trip locations that we will be going too in the next several weeks.
- North Potomac has launched NEW evening and weekend programs for the working senior.
 - On 9/13 the Evening Crafters group have starting back up after taking a break for the summer months. They meet monthly starting a 6PM.
 - Outdoor Pickleball on Thursdays will continue as long as weather and sun light permits into the Fall (4-6:30PM)
 - On 9/16 we launched Gentle stretching and Yoga breathing on Saturdays at 11 AM
 - On 9/23 we launched Martial Arts Health Dance at 9:15AM
 - On 9/16 we launched Latin Dance Social monthly on Tuesdays at 7PM
- 3 centers did a joint mini trip to Brookville Farm for a Farm Tour and Tasting on 9/27/2023 (Damascus Senior Center, Holiday Park Senior Center, North Potomac Senior Center). 55 participants registered for this JCA Bus mini trip.

Upcoming Events/Visit Opportunities

- Wednesday, October 4th at 1PM: Balinese Dancing & Music - an afternoon with traditional Balinese dancing (Holiday Park)
- Oct. 5 at 1pm: Safe Cooking Demo for Fire Prevention Month with Fire and Rescue Services: we will be learning safe (and fun!) cooking practices as we observe Captain Justin Meyer cooking Quesadillas for us as he explains how to stay safe in the kitchen (Holiday Park)
- Monday, October 9th at 9AM-2PM Senior Adventures Camp: 1-day experience (N. Potomac)
- Tuesday, October 10th at 1 PM: Live Music by Orleans Express (Damascus Senior Center)
- Thursday, October 19th at 1 PM: Aging and the Importance of Staying Active with PIVOT Physical Therapy (Damascus Senior Center)
- Saturday. October 21st North Potomac Senior Center & North Potomac Community Center have partnered together for their annual FALL FESTIVAL. This Family friendly event has activities, demos, food and fun for all ages as the community gets together to celebrate Fall.

Fall Updates

- Senior Adventures 1-day Experience at North Potomac Senior Center currently has 22 individuals registered for the program. 10/9 from 9-2PM
- As of 9/19/23: Fall 2023 Registration update 6350 registrations & 151 people who have been placed on a waitlist because a program was full (20 programs holding WL)
- We are looking to bring back the Senior Nutrition Program to Germantown Community Center on Monday/Thursdays in the Fall. Doug just interviewed a potential Nutrition Manager who qualifies for the vacancy and is submitting paperwork to hire them.

Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center (SSRAC)

Updates:

- Hiring is ongoing for seasonal staff at SSRAC.
- SSRAC staff meet monthly with Countywide Programs staff to discuss classes, camps and programs that will be held at the center. These meetings will continue to be held during the final construction phase and opening of the center. We will be discussing the program opportunities, needs and ideas as we learn the community interests.
- SSRAC career staff have spent time working in a variety of roles in Senior Centers, Community Recreation Centers and Aquatic Centers. They are becoming familiar with all aspects of programming, senior meal programs and facility operations as part of their training.
-

Youth Development

Montgomery County Recreation's Youth Development Team uses a variety of means to reach the County's diverse young people. Our recreation activities and services allow children and teens to make the most of their time outside of school.

Updates:

- Buckets & Beats Silver Spring Youth Block Party a success! (9/22/23) 10 teams competed in basketball tournament and over 50 visitors engaged in skateboarding activities that Recreation led. Link to event summary here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uf4-bBIXQUw>
- Investment in training and preparation of providers, school partners and staff for start of afterschool programs (Provider Meeting, Administrator Meeting, Back to School Night Events, Registration Events, Fall Staff Training, S4C Coaches clinic, etc.).
- 9/9- Staff supported the Beinvenidos Resource Fair held at Blair High School to share Recreation information with families.
- 9/13- Tabled at USG Fest (Universities at Shady Grove) to share Recreation and hiring information with students.
- 9/28- Participated in Montgomery County Workforce Mentoring Summit at USG held by MD Mentor; Provided onsite homecoming support through activities at Watkins Mill during football game.

- Upcoming Events/Visit Opportunities – 10/6 3:30-6:30 High School Soccer4Change games first day; 10/12 4:00-6:30 Middle School Soccer4Change games first day; 10/9 - Teens Day Out (trip to Laurel Skating Rink); 11/1- S4C All Star Game

Fall/Winter Plans:

- Afterschool Programs Launch – Beginning the week of Sept 18 through the first week of October, our 44 afterschool programs for elementary to high school youth will be starting. Staff attending back-to-school events currently to recruit and register youth for Excel Beyond the Bell, RecXtra & RecZone programs.
- Soccer4Change Fall League – practices start the week of Sept 25 for our middle and high school soccer league with first games on 10/6 (high) and 10/12 (middle).
- Teens Day Out – excited to partner with MCPS to offer 5 days of special programming for middle school students during non-school days this year at no cost to families. [Added a 6th TDO date to the calendar for the school year during spring break. All dates are currently filled with registrants.](#)
- Selection and Onboarding of 5 new career positions as EBB Elementary and TeenWorks programs expand.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION ORGANIZATION CHART



